



**Secure Community
Reentry Facilities -
A Partnership for
Public Safety:**
Preparing Offenders for
Success in the Community



A Better Approach to Rehabilitative Reform

Over the past 30 years, California's prisons have become increasingly overcrowded. On May 3, 2007, Governor Schwarzenegger signed Assembly Bill 900, a historic prison reform bill, also known as the Public Safety and Offender Rehabilitation Services Act of 2007. AB 900 provides \$7.7 billion to add up to 53,000 prison and jail beds in two phases and fundamentally shifts how the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) approaches rehabilitation for California's prisoners. This reform approach moves away from a model of massive, remotely-located prisoner warehouses to smaller facilities with improved rehabilitation and community reentry programs designed to reduce crime and enhance public safety. One of the key components of this reform is the creation of a state and local partnership to establish Secure Community Reentry Facilities throughout California.

What is a Secure Community Reentry Facility (SCRF)?

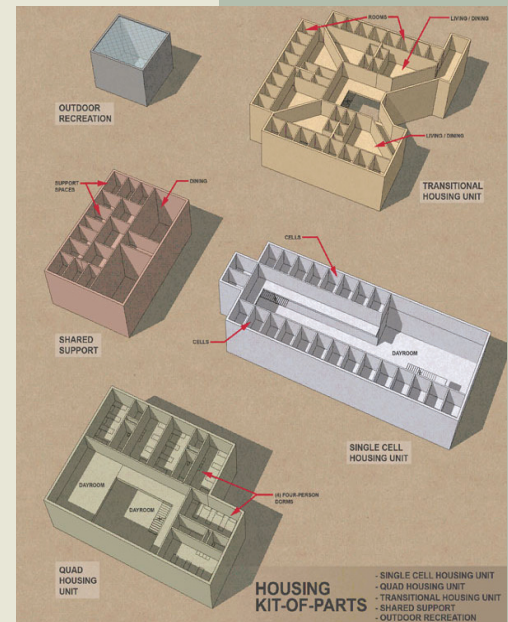
In California, a SCRF provides a maximum of 500 beds. Each SCRF provides space to meet court-mandated standards for medical, dental, and mental health treatment. Also, the facility will provide space for external community partners so they can be an integral part of the SCRF program. CDCR will organize and direct the associated planning, design, and construction of SCRFs. CDCR will also provide the resources necessary for programs and services within the SCRF.

Each reentry facility will be designed in cooperation with local county and/or city officials to meet local needs. However, each reentry facility must operate within a shared framework and design to ensure an effective, evidence-based rehabilitative treatment model. The reentry rehabilitative treatment model is based on the philosophy of cognitive-behavior treatment. This model uses an integrated approach to deliver cognitive behavioral programs at varying levels of intensity and duration based on an individual risk and needs assessment. The model employs evidence-based programs in a coherent and seamless manner to create a comprehensive treatment program and environment. For more information, visit our web site at: www.CDCR.ca.gov.



Reentry Designs Facilitate Transition

There are some basic principles incorporated into the interior design of reentry facilities that will help inmates transition. The architecture provides a therapeutic environment that facilitates effective rehabilitation and treatment through intensive programs.



Conceptual Designs Adapt to Local Communities

Everything from the outside façade of a Secure Community Reentry Facility to the interior design and the intensive focus on rehabilitative programs is unique compared to a traditional prison. Prototypes have been developed to help facilitate dialogues with communities about their individual needs. For instance:

Unobtrusive secure design:

The architectural designs are unobtrusive, and void of towers or barbed wire fences. The building envelope serves as the secure perimeter, and conceptual design renderings have been developed to be compatible and mirror surrounding buildings and styles.

Facilities Adapt to Surroundings:

Multiple architectural models are available which were designed

to harmonize with the community and can be adapted based on existing site constraints.

Sized for All Settings:

There are low-rise, mid-rise, and high-rise models based on the site parameters in local communities. Each is approximately 280,000-300,000 square feet.

- The high-rise model is meant to be sited in an area with a constrained amount of land, and can be sited on 3-5 acres with off-site parking;
- The mid-rise model would require between 8-12 acres with on-site parking;
- The low-rise model has 12-15 acres, with on-site parking.



California Mission - Conceptual Design



California Ranch - Conceptual Design

Economic Benefits for The local community

New Permanent Jobs

A Secure Community Reentry Facility (SCRF) offers new, stable jobs with good salaries and attractive employee benefits. The number of jobs will vary depending on the size and program of each facility. The conceptual plan for a 500-bed facility calls for about 300 staff, including a mix of state, and contracted employees. Close to half of the jobs will be custody (peace officer) classifications, while other jobs fall into a wide variety of occupations including medical, educational, vocational, administrative, food preparation, trades and religious services classifications.

Spin-off Jobs

Previous economic studies have estimated that every two new direct jobs will produce one spin-off job in the community. This means that a new 500-bed SCRF with 300 staff would generate about 150 additional jobs in the community.

Construction Jobs

The construction of a SCRF will create a large number of temporary jobs in the construction trades. California state government contracts with the private sector for the construction of facilities. General contractors have a mix of company workers who travel from project to project and new workers who are hired locally.

Payroll and Purchases

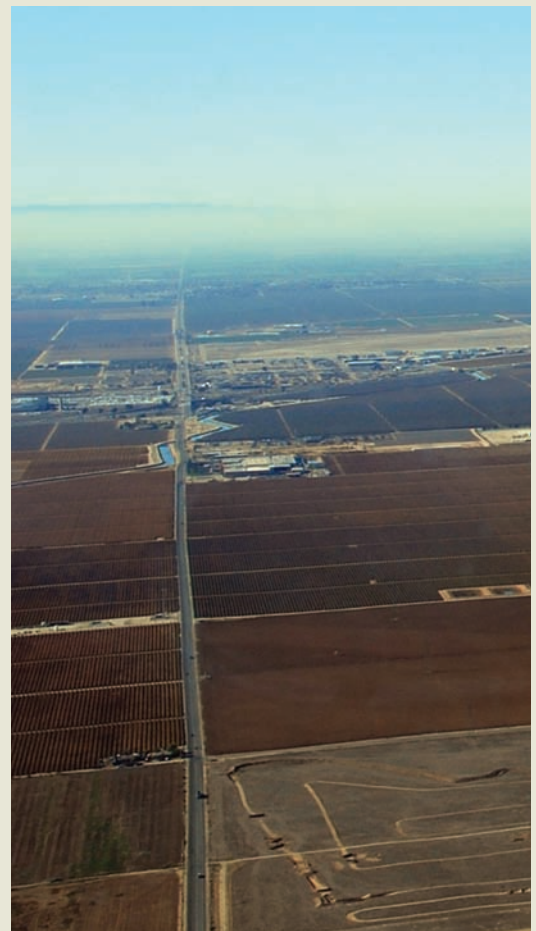
The annual payroll (including salary and benefits) for a 500-bed facility with 300 staff is estimated at \$30 million (for a smaller facility with 200 staff, the estimate is \$22 million). Employees, whether local or commuters, shop in local stores, eat and hold events at local restaurants, buy gas and other products locally, etc. In addition, the facility itself purchases goods and services.

One-Time Funding for Schools and Local Government

In addition to any mitigation funding identified in the environmental process, the SCRF budget will include special funding of \$800 per bed to be divided equally between local schools and local government. For a 500-bed facility, the payments would be \$200,000 for schools and \$200,000 for local government.

Increased Ongoing Funding for Local Government

California collects certain taxes or fees and then apportions them to the cities and counties. The primary sources of these subvention funds are the Motor Vehicle License Fees, the Highway Users Tax, and beginning in 2008, State sales tax on gasoline.





“Counties, cities, and the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) are working together to devise programs that will assist parolees to succeed on parole, reduce recidivism, and enhance public safety.”



The Formula for Calculating the Apportionment Differs for Cities and Counties

Cities receive state subventions based on population. If a facility is located within the city's incorporated area, the inmates are included in the population count. Thus, the city would receive increased subvention funding for the inmates as well as for new residents living within the city limits. The per capita amount varies from year to year.

Counties receive subventions based primarily on the number of registered cars, county maintained road miles and property assessed values. Therefore, county apportionments would increase with new residents moving into the county, any new roads constructed and any increase in property values that might come about as a result of a new facility.



Environmental Review Process for Secure Community Reentry Facilities:

Acquisition of a site and the construction of a reentry facility will require compliance with the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The public agency responsible for preparing and approving the CEQA environmental report (the "lead agency") is the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR).

The CEQA document for each site would assess the potential adverse environmental consequences of the respective proposal (site development, traffic, land-use compatibility, utility capacity, etc.) before the site is acquired or construction begins. This process would include opportunities for

community participation and formal review of the CEQA documents. If feasible, CDCR would adopt and implement mitigation measures to compensate for significant adverse effects of each project.

In situations where a site has already been the topic of a locally-approved CEQA document in anticipation of a new secure correctional facility, CDCR may be able to utilize such environmental reports for our decision to build a reentry project. However, if this does occur CDCR would still conduct a community planning process to assure public participation in the decision to acquire property and construct a new secure reentry facility.

"...Any final plans and agreements on secure community reentry facilities will be negotiated by county sheriffs and county administrative officers, but those of us who work in public safety will ensure these are set up correctly..."

— San Diego County District Attorney Bonnie Dumanis, August 20, 2007

“We are on the verge of making history again in California. For decades, the prison overcrowding crisis was ignored in Sacramento. Rooms were double bunked, then triple bunked, and our recidivism rate soared. In my State of the State Address in January, I proposed comprehensive prison reform and am very encouraged that the Legislature, after months of hard work, is about to take action. This proposal will bring critical new rehabilitation programs and create desperately-needed space to relieve overcrowding. I am particularly proud of the innovative rehabilitation programs like the re-entry facilities that are included. Don Perata, Fabian Nunez, Dick Ackerman and Mike Villines deserve all the credit for putting the needs of California first and stepping up to address a very real threat to our public safety.”

– Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger’s Statement on Prison Reform
(AB 900), April 25, 2007

Contact Information

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Or visit: www.CDCR.ca.gov

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